



Only Newspaper Published In Torrance

Torrance Herald

Consolidated Edition of Torrance Herald & Lomita News

One Section 8 Pages This Issue

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JULY 26, 1934

PER COPY 5c

WATER COMPANY'S EASTERN PRESIDENT COMING MONDAY

Show-Down On Water System Purchase Is Predicted. City Council Authorizes \$200,000 In Bonds Issued At 5%

Rupert E. Shotts, president of the Associated Public Utilities of Columbus, Ohio, parent organization of the Torrance Water, Light & Power Company, is expected to reach Torrance Monday to confer with members of the city council relative to the purchase of the water company's holdings by the city of Torrance.

Request that President Shotts come West immediately was made Tuesday night through E. C. Nelson, president of the local water company; by the Torrance city council, whose members are anxious to reach an early decision on the four-year-old water controversy. It is expected that a definite decision will be reached early next week, as to whether the city will purchase the present water system and improve it, or construct an entirely new system paralleling the present water lines. Arthur Taylor of the firm of Salisbury, Bradshaw & Taylor, special consulting engineers employed by the city, has been conferring with engineers of the water company. The city and water company are reported to be at a wide variance of opinions, and unless they reach a common agreement acceptable to both the city and the water company at a final conference scheduled for tomorrow, Mr. Nelson stated today that he would let the present arrangements for Mr. Shotts' visit Monday stand. Mr. Shotts plans to leave Columbus by airplane Saturday night. Evidence that the city council intends to push the early solution of the water problem was seen Tuesday night, when an ordinance authorizing the issuance of \$200,000 of the \$400,000 water bonds was adopted at the first reading.

City Launches Drive to Get Highways Near Here Improved

A drive to improve three important highways in and near Torrance was launched Tuesday night by the Torrance city council with the two-fold objective of securing better traffic arteries and supplying work for the unemployed.

Application was made to the SERRA to provide materials and labor for the widening and grading of Catalina avenue through Hollywood Riviera. Clifford F. Reid Company, subdividers of the tract, agreed to do the necessary surveying and furnish equipment for the work. F. W. Marlow, vice president of the company, told the city council that in a recent conversation with state highway officials, it was indicated that if Catalina avenue could be widened and graded now, that it would eventually be taken over as a state highway and improved. Sepulveda-East Road. A resolution was addressed to the board of supervisors asking for the improvement of Sepulveda boulevard between Hawthorne avenue and Main street. Another resolution was sent to the Los Angeles city council seeking that body's assistance in improving East Road between El Prado and Normandie avenue. This will be an important road connecting Torrance with the new million dollar Hughes-Mitchell lead and zinc plant. City Engineer Leonard was requested by the city council to lend his efforts in promoting the construction of these important road projects.

Torrance Moose Lodge Makes Great Progress In Membership

"Torrance-Lodge Loyal Order of Moose holds the distinction of making the most progress in membership and organization during the past year of all the Lodges in the State of California," stated J. Davis Laird of Bakersfield, Secretary of the California Moose Association, in a recent visit to Torrance Lodge.

J. Lepkin, Huron Reeve, George Bailey will be official delegates to the first annual convention of the California Moose Association to be held in Long Beach during August 2, 3, 4 and 5, 1934. Harry Crawford, Ted Figueroa, and Steve Muschel have been elected alternate delegates to the convention. John V. Murray, dictator; Albert L. Pueta, secretary; and A. H. Bartlett will have active parts in the program at Long Beach. Nelson Reeve, chairman of the float committee of Torrance Lodge, promises that Torrance will have one of the most outstanding units in the mammoth parade to be staged Saturday afternoon, August 4, at 2 o'clock, at Long Beach. The unit will consist of a large sign calling attention to the name of the town, followed by a large class of candidates to be initiated at Long Beach; the American Legion drum corps of Torrance, Boy Scout troops sponsored by Torrance Lodge, Loyal Order of Moose, and last, a beautiful float exemplifying the work carried out at Mooseheart, Illinois, for dependent children. Malcolm R. Giles, of Mooseheart, Illinois, supreme secretary; Edward J. Henning, of Beverly Hills, chairman of the executive board; George Keating, of Los

Mrs. Straub Dies Suddenly Saturday

Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 25, in Los Angeles for Mrs. Marie Antonette Straub, who passed away after an illness of a few hours last Saturday, at the family residence, 143 East 42nd street, Los Angeles. Mrs. Straub was the wife of E. O. Straub, general manager of the mechanical department of the Pacific Electric shops in this city, both Mr. and Mrs. Straub being well known in Torrance. Besides her husband, Mrs. Straub leaves three daughters and a son to mourn her loss.

Preliminary Work Starts At High School

Equipment Moved to Bungalow and Shed In Rear; Tents For Students

Plans have been made to rehabilitate the main building and shops at Torrance high school within a short time. This work is being done in order to conform with the new safety standards which are set forth in the recently enacted state and local building codes, as a protection against earthquake hazards. By this act the division of architecture of the state public works department is vested with authority to enforce regulations affecting our public schools and to lay down the standards that must be observed in construction. Masonry school buildings must be constructed to withstand a lateral force equal to ten per cent of the total weight of the building, plus a specified load. Competitive bids were required and all contracts are subject to a three-fold rigid check, (a) by the board's business department, (b) the architectural division of architecture, and (c) the federal engineer (P.W.A.) for California.

The long delay in starting this work was occasioned by lack of necessary funds and the necessity of the board of education submitting a digest of the bids received to the federal engineer together with a recommendation as to which firm or individual should receive the contract. This recommendation has to receive the official approval of the federal engineer before the board can let said contract.

All equipment has been removed from the main building and the shop building and stored in the auditorium and a newly constructed shed. Within a few weeks a number of tents will be set up, to the rear of the science building, as a means of temporarily housing the students during the rehabilitation process. According to present plans the students will again be housed in regular buildings by the beginning of the spring semester in February.

Aged Father Of Mrs. Hitchcock Dies Mon. P. M.

A. M. Van Ness Suffers Stroke At Home of Councilman J. E. Hitchcock

Aaron M. Van Ness, 82, father of Mrs. James E. Hitchcock, died Monday evening at 8:15 o'clock at the home of Councilman and Mrs. Hitchcock at the C. C. M. O. Camp, where he has lived for several years. The old gentleman, despite his advanced age, has been active and in good health until a week ago when he suffered a stroke of apoplexy. Born in Pennsylvania, he followed the oil business all his life, first in Pennsylvania and later in California, where he came in 1910. His wife died several years ago.

Sinclair Club Meets Wednesday

The Upton Sinclair Club of Torrance will hold a meeting at Social Hall, 2171 Torrance boulevard, Wednesday, August 1, 1934, at 8 p. m. Speakers from the other clubs will discuss the Epic Plan. Admission is free and everyone welcome.

WOULD STOP BOOZE ON ELECTION DAYS

On recommendation of National Voice, Los Angeles prohibition weekly, the Torrance city council this week unanimously adopted a resolution addressed to the state board of equalization asking that the sale of intoxicating liquors be prohibited on election days.

CITY ORDERS PARK BAND STAND COMPLETED

An appropriation of \$700 to complete the band shell at the municipal park was made by the Torrance city council Tuesday. It is planned to make the band stand ready for the formal opening of the park on Sunday, August 19.

Band Concert, Movie Circus Acts, Noted Speakers, Baseball; Yep, Ice Cream, Cake and Coffee Too!

Elaborate Day of Entertainment and Enlightenment Planned For Park Dedication, Sunday, Aug. 19

Plan to spend this day in Torrance—Sunday, August 19! You'll never forgive yourself if you miss the sumptuous feast of fun and free entertainment that is being planned for your pleasure on this day when the new municipal park

on Arlington avenue will be formally dedicated to the enjoyment and recreation of the people of this community. Elaborate plans are nearing completion to make Sunday, August 19, the outstanding day of the decade in municipal history. Here's a brief outline of arrangements which have already been made: 2 to 4 p. m.—Band concert by the C. H. Cleveland's Harbor District Boys' Band, of San Pedro. This outstanding musical organization comprises 60 pieces and is renowned throughout the Southland. It recently received a certificate of award as winner in the recent county-wide Festival of Allied Arts at Los Angeles. Also from 2 to 4 p. m., there will be a top-notch baseball game in progress, and a huge old-fashioned ice cream social with ice cream, cake and coffee served by the American Legion Auxiliary, and the price will be only ten cents. It is also suggested that families bring picnic lunches, topping off the picnic with ice cream and cake. Ladies of the Legion Auxiliary will be dressed as Colonial Dames. For the children, ice cream cones will be sold at a nickel. 4 to 5 p. m.—Park dedication program with noted speaker delivering the principal address. 5 to 6 p. m.—Glorious circus and vaudeville acts, which are being provided gratuitously by the movie studios. The entertainment program and all other features of the gala day will be free except for the small charge of the ice cream and cake social. A cordial invitation is extended by the committee in charge to all local residents and their friends. Watch for further details of this big day, Sunday, August 19.

YOUNG MAN AND GIRL BOUND BY BANDITS IN P. V. HILLS

William Parke and Miss May Guy Thrilling Experience, With All-Night Ride As Unwilling Guests of Prowlers in Lonely Section

Gagged and bound by bandits who helped themselves to the victim's cigarettes, money and his motorcycle, William Parke, 1318 Anapola avenue, had a thrilling story to tell at the office of the constable, Lomita township, Monday morning.

Parke, in company with Miss May Guy, also of Torrance, went for a ride on Parke's Harley Davidson motorcycle Sunday evening and took the route through Lomita into the Palos Verdes hills. Near the motorcycle climb, which is a short distance beyond the end of Normandie avenue, Parke and Miss Guy were halted by unknown prowlers in a large dark sedan. According to Parke's story there were several persons in the car, including one woman. The Torrance pair were blindfolded, gagged and bound and placed in the back seat of the sedan and were driven around in the hills for hours until about 4:30 Monday morning. Two members of the party which staged the hold-up mounted Parke's motorcycle and rode away. At the end of the night's driving this pair returned back to a large Guy was released and was told that they would find the motorcycle about half a mile down the road. They proceeded on foot to the point indicated and found the machine, on which they returned home. During this time, Parke related to officers that from what he gathered from conversation among those left on guard duty, that the car in which they were riding was a "hot" car, and later when the two returned who had been making unauthorized use of the motorcycle, Parke stated that their conversation indicated that another hold-up had been perpetrated in which the motorcycle had been used. Strangely enough, later reports to officers of the sheriff's department, bore out Parke's story to that effect.

Raymond Dominguez, 1321 East 15th street, Los Angeles, employed as a truck driver for I. Taniabani, Japanese gardener, residing at 718 East 9th street, Los Angeles, reported to Sub-station No. 3 that about 4:30 a. m. Monday he had been forced to the curb by a man on a red motorcycle, trimmed in black, who held a gun on him. When he had stopped the truck, which was loaded with tomatoes, two other men drove up in a Ford roadster, who also produced guns. The three searched the driver, obtaining \$1.10 for their trouble, and missing an additional 40 cents which had slipped down into a corner of his pocket. They then gagged Dominguez, tied him up, and left him in a field while they drove off with the motorcycle, roadster and truck, which he found later rammed against a high bank by the roadside. A hydraulic jack worth \$35 was missing. Dominguez struggled with his bonds for a while and finally succeeded in turning to STORY ONE

High Fee Aimed At Vacant Lot Auto Dealers

City Proposed \$100 License and \$5000 Bond, But Objections Voiced

Efforts to discourage out-of-town dealers in used automobiles from displaying and selling cars on vacant lots in Torrance by requiring such used car dealers to pay \$100 business license fees, yearly in advance, met with objections at the Torrance city council meeting Tuesday night. In the amendment proposed to the city ordinance, such used car dealers would also be required to post \$5000 surety bonds as a protection to buyers against misrepresentations. Established local new car dealers, selling used cars taken in trade, would be exempt from the above requirements, according to the terms of the proposed ordinance. Councilman Klusman voiced strenuous objections of the proposed amendment, charging that it was discriminatory. Councilman Stanger defended the move as a protection to established dealers who furnish employment to local mechanics in their garages. Stanger claimed that used car dealers operating on vacant lots with little overhead expense, worked a hardship on dealers who were maintaining substantial payrolls. The proprietor of Wolfe's Garage, 1401 Border avenue, stated that he had an established automobile repair shop and wished to sell used cars in connection with his garage business. He objected to the proposed ordinance as it would require him to pay the \$100 license fee and post the \$5000 bond. Several members of the city council indicated that they would favor exempting such garages as well as new car dealers from the rigid requirements. However, in view of the objections which developed, the city council took no action and laid the whole matter over until a later meeting.

PAUL ZUVER AWARDED STREET LIGHT CONTRACT

Contract for maintenance of ornamental street lights for the ensuing year was awarded to Paul Zuver, electrical contractor, by the Torrance city council this week. Zuver will receive \$16 per month for the work. A contract for supplying lamps was given to the General Electric Corporation.

New Ordinance To Curb Theft Of Auto Parts

Rigid Regulations Set Forth For Dealers In Second-Hand Merchandise

Rigid regulation of second-hand auto parts dealers and less stringent supervision of dealers in other second-hand merchandise, including junk, are set forth in an ordinance adopted at its first reading by the Torrance city council Tuesday night. The new ordinance copies very closely those now in force in the county and other municipalities and is designed primarily to assist police in running down theft cases. Under the terms of the new ordinance, dealers in second-hand auto parts will be required to keep accurate records of each purchase, a description of the seller and his automobile license number, and no second-hand auto part may be sold within one week from the time of its purchase by the dealer. Hours of doing business are also set forth, and all office records are subject to inspection by police authorities. Re-sale of sewing machines, musical instruments, typewriters, and milk bottles are also regulated in order to detect stolen articles. Goods taken in trade by established merchants are exempted. Bottles, other than milk bottles, rags and similar so-called junk, are also exempted from the requirements of the ordinance. License fees are left as at present, \$3.00 per quarter, payable in advance. Junk dealers are required to pay separate license fees for each truck or wagon. Violation of the ordinance is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$50 or six months in prison, or both.

Bold Attempt Is Frustrated By Woman's Wit

Young Boy Accused of Improper Conduct Is Taken Into Custody

Billy Steers, said to be a resident of the Hammerton tract, was taken into custody and turned over to juvenile authorities Thursday afternoon on complaint of Mrs. Ramona Chase, 1517 East Road, who told police that the boy approached her with improper proposals. Only Mrs. Chase's presence of mind saved her from one of the boldest attempts at a statutory offense that has been recorded in this vicinity. Mrs. Chase had driven her car from her home in the direction of Carson street, taking, as usual, a short cut along the road through the tree row east of the city wood yards but was halted by a ditch filled with water which was unable to cross. As she was turning around to drive back young Steers, who is said to be about 16 years old, came from the tree row and accosted her. He prevented her from driving away, she says, by turning off the ignition, and Mrs. Chase jumped out of the car and ran across the fields toward her home. The boy, according to Mrs. Chase's account, followed her and placed himself in front of her to hinder her progress, but she managed to maneuver him towards the premises of a Japanese gardener whose jurisdiction the boy was within a short distance of the farm buildings he ran back towards the tree row. Mrs. Chase returned home and summoned a neighbor who took her in his car back to the spot where her car had been left. They found young Steers standing beside the car, but when he saw that she was accompanied by a man he took to his heels and ran across the field, where he was finally captured and was taken to the city police station. Local officers summoned by the police took place and the boy was turned over to them. According to Mrs. Chase, the boy showed no signs of fear or hesitation when she threatened him with the police and paid no attention to her admonitions or arguments. Only when he found that she had out-manuevered him did he give up his alleged attempt.

Nelson Seeks County Post

President of Local Water Company Candidate for Office

Edward C. Nelson of Torrance is among the list of candidates who will seek the post of county tax collector, left vacant by the death of the late Col. W. O. Welch, according to applications on file today with the county civil service commission. Deadline for filing applications is Friday of this week, and the examination date is to be fixed later. The job pays \$7200 a year, less a 1.91 per cent reduction imposed by the board of supervisors on all county employes receiving more than \$8301 annually from the county. H. D. Alfonso, former chief deputy, is the temporary appointee to the position.

Democratic Club At Harbor City

The Andrew Jackson Democratic Club of the 17th Congressional district held its regular weekly meeting at the Social Hall, Torrance boulevard and Portola avenue, Monday evening with a large attendance.

PIANO PURCHASED FOR CITY RECREATION DEPT.

Purchase of a piano for \$50 was authorized by the Torrance city council this week. The piano will be used in instructing pupils at the Recreation Center on Cabrillo avenue.

NEW TORRANCE PLANT FILES ARTICLES WITH CO. CLERK

Hughes-Mitchell Company Complies With Last Legal Requirement For Holding Property In Los Angeles County; Work May Start Soon

With the filing of a certified copy of the articles of incorporation of the Hughes-Mitchell Processes, Inc., which recently announced purchase of a plant site near Torrance, the company today had complied with all legal requirements to hold property in the county. The law provides that a corporation holding property in the county must file a copy of its articles with the county clerk.

The articles specify that the company is empowered to carry on the business of assaying, mining, milling, amalgamating, concentrating, converting, smelting, treating and refining of gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, brass, iron, steel, tin and other metals, among other things. Inventions, process and formulae of Thomas A. Mitchell are to be employed in the manufacture, it is specified. Officers of the company are listed as LaFayette Hughes, Thomas A. Mitchell, Clyde W. Turnbull, Berrien Hughes, E. D. Erwin, Montgomery Dorsey and Clayton W. Carpenter, all of Denver, Colorado. The company's stock is divided into 10,000 shares of capital stock of \$100 each, amounting to \$1,000,000, and 100,000 shares of common stock, "without a nominal or par value," the articles state. The company was incorporated only last April 16 in Wyoming, and has been operating in Cheyenne and Laramie, Wyoming. The articles were filed with the secretary of state on July 16.

Election of Torrance C. Welch For Justice of Peace Forecast

Torrance C. Welch, prominent Torrance attorney and business executive, is the only resident of Lomita township who is a candidate for the office of justice of the peace in the newly enlarged Inglewood township, which, after January 1, will embrace the townships of Lomita, Gardena, P. D. Beach, Inglewood and La Rambla. This fact, coupled with the further advantage of being eminently well qualified for the position by reason of his long law practice and 15 years business experience, seems to assure Mr. Welch the almost united support of the voters in Torrance and Lomita. Recent reports also indicate that he will receive substantial backing from other portions of the great Southwest portion of Los Angeles county comprising the new Inglewood township. As the voting strength of Inglewood, Gardena and other important population centers will be divided among local candidates, it is predicted by political observers that Mr. Welch, with the united support of Torrance and Lomita, will have a good chance of heading the list of seven candidates seeking the office of justice of the peace.

Candidate



TORRANCE C. WELCH

Nelson Seeks County Post

President of Local Water Company Candidate for Office

Edward C. Nelson of Torrance is among the list of candidates who will seek the post of county tax collector, left vacant by the death of the late Col. W. O. Welch, according to applications on file today with the county civil service commission. Deadline for filing applications is Friday of this week, and the examination date is to be fixed later. The job pays \$7200 a year, less a 1.91 per cent reduction imposed by the board of supervisors on all county employes receiving more than \$8301 annually from the county. H. D. Alfonso, former chief deputy, is the temporary appointee to the position.

Democratic Club At Harbor City

The Andrew Jackson Democratic Club of the 17th Congressional district held its regular weekly meeting at the Social Hall, Torrance boulevard and Portola avenue, Monday evening with a large attendance.

PIANO PURCHASED FOR CITY RECREATION DEPT.

Purchase of a piano for \$50 was authorized by the Torrance city council this week. The piano will be used in instructing pupils at the Recreation Center on Cabrillo avenue.

Community Builder

Torrance C. Welch was associated with his uncle, the late Jared Sidney Torrance, in many enterprises for the development of the southwestern portion of Los Angeles county including the city of Torrance. He served as secretary and director of the Dominguez Land Corporation for many years, and at present is the president of the Torrance Mutual Building & Loan Association, and the Industrial Housing Corporation of Torrance. He is also a member of the board of trustees of the Southwest Museum.

Creel Headquarters Opened In Torrance

Headquarters in Torrance for the promotion of the candidacy of George H. Creel for governor, are now open in the Colonial Hotel building, in the rooms formerly occupied by the Freeman Cafe. Robert Lessing will be in charge and some one will be on duty all the time to hand out literature and answer all questions regarding the campaign.